



"Lest We Forget"—Albert Herter's Painting of French Troops Leaving for the Front, August, 1914

The AMERICAN McALL RECORD

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# THE FORTY-FOURTH ANNUAL MEETING of the

AMERICAN McALL ASSOCIATION will be held in the

# YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION BUILDING Corner Front and Church Streets. Plainfield

Wednesday and Thursday
May 11th and 12th

Chairman of Hospitality MRS. DUNCAN W. TAYLOR 455 West Seventh Street Plainfield, New Jersey

Convention Theme
"A WIDE DOOR STANDS OPEN"

The popular evening meeting on Wednesday will be held at Trinity Reformed Church, West Second Street and Trinity Place.

The Speaker will be
REV. JOHN McDOWELL, D.D.
Secretary of the Board of National Missions
of the Presbyterian Church

#### HERE AND THERE

The phonograph sent from Pittsfield in one of the Christmas boxes has already begun its travels among the stations of the Mission. The following story tells of its first installation in the Faubourg St. Antoine hall, in Paris. The conversation reported was overheard on the sidewalk not far from the hall itself:

"Good morning, Mother Pauline, how are you? Where were you last Tuesday? We did not see you at the Mothers' Meeting."

"I was not in the mood for it, I was coughing a little and decided not to go out."

"That is too bad, Mother Pauline; it does one good to be in the hall near the stove and one is so comfortable during the two hours spent at the meeting! And you have missed something new. We had a phonograph concert."

"It's not possible!"

"Yes, indeed, after the meeting, for three hours! M. Drancourt has installed a splendid phonograph and told us that it came from America in a big case. Yes, can you believe it, from so far away! Over there someone wants to give pleasure to us who come to the Mission's halls and the Faubourg is the first to have this pleasure."

"Are there many records?"

"Yes, enough to have many concerts. We heard choirs, violins and solos. It is magnificent! There are two songs by a choir, a Christmas carol and some Hawaiian music, sad but so beautiful. Then there are airs from the operas. I was glad to hear them announce *La Bohème* which I had heard when I was young, and I sang softly, 'They call me Mimi'! And then a woman, a princess, who had a beautiful voice, sang it, but not in French. We did not understand the words, but it was beautiful even so."

A propos of the discontinuance of the free transportation of relief boxes, the example of several of the auxiliaries is commended to all the rest any of whose members may be contemplating being in Paris during the coming summer, namely, that these persons be requested to carry parcels of clothing or other things with them. As was said by the president of one society recently, "This plan has the double advantage of continuing the sending of necessary articles, more than ever necessary in the present tragic unemployment in France, and of giving the bearers of parcels an incentive for visiting the Mission's Headquarters."

In this connection, all American visitors are again reminded that the "Headquarters" are at 1 rue Pierre Levée, Paris (XIe), five minutes' walk beyond the Place de la République and that the telephone number is Roquette 38-70, the name in the telephone book being, of course, Mission Populaire Evangélique.

The back cover of the Record is a complete directory of the Mission's establishments throughout France and anyone wanting to look up any station would do well to take this along.

#### DIRECTOR GUEX RESIGNS

The familiar face of the genial director of the *Mission Populaire* appears again in the pages of the Record because it is the Editor's painful duty to announce that on July 1st, next, Pastor Guex's official relations with the Mission will cease.

There is not an evangelist, or Bible-woman, or door-keeper from Desvres to Nice who does not feel a deep sense of loss at M. Guex's resignation. He has been as a father and big brother to them all.



DIRECTOR HENRI GUEX

Much the same may be said of his relations to the American McAll Association to whose Auxiliaries, officers and members alike, he has endeared himself. His brief visit to the United States six years ago, during which time he was present

at the Annual Meeting at Easton, won him the hearts of all whose privilege it was to meet and hear him.

M. Guex was installed as Director-in-chief of the McAll work in 1913. In other words, he has served the Mission for fourteen years, carrying it through the ordeal of the war and, despite the losses of Protestant man-power caused by that unparalleled tragedy, he has succeeded in finding new men to fill nearly all of the Mission's posts in Paris and throughout France.

He has held on until he has put the organization entirely on its feet again and, in his own words, is "laying down his task without anxiety."

The Mission's building campaign had just begun with the dedication of the new headquarters at 1 rue Pierre Levée, when M. Guex took charge. His administration will be remembered as the building era—since the war, as the era of reconstruction. Under his supervision building operations have been carried on in Paris, Lille, Roubaix, Rouen, St. Quentin, Amiens and Nantes, both the chapel-boats have been completely overhauled and the five vacation colonies, including the orphan home, have been acquired. The latest and one of the finest of all the Mission's accomplishments under M. Guex's direction, as described in the March Record, is the acquisition of the Maison Verte, always a going concern, leased in the Mission's early days and now owned and at the moment being renovated for a yet more earnest campaign.

Let M. Guex's own words give the reasons for his resignation. He writes:

"My motives are entirely personal. For a long time I have wanted to return to the pastorate after having given fourteen years to the work of administration, a work which has kept me largely outside of direct pastoral contacts. Mine is primarily a pastor's instinct, so that I have actually felt the need of satisfying it by taking up again the "ministry" to which I gave so many years of my earlier life. For some months, too, I have realized that my strength was not what it formerly was and that if I continued longer my relation to the Mission, I should not have the energy to take up again pastoral duties.

"This is the reason which has led me to this step. I need not add that it is not without sadness, not without real suffering, that I part from the Mission which has had my entire heart. It is with veritable sorrow also that I say farewell to my co-workers as well as to the kind friends in America who have so generously supported me."

In July M. Guex will begin his new life in the service of the church at Draguignan, in the department of the Var, between five hundred and six hundred miles to the south of Paris.

The Record speaks for every auxiliary in the Association in wishing the beloved Director all happiness and health as he renews his youth in returning to the Master's service in the field he chose in his younger manhood.

It is with a sense of deep gratitude, as well as of high assurance and confidence, that we add, that the vacancy in the Director's chair is to be filled by Pastor Emmanuel Chastand, of Nantes, whose work in the *Fraternité* in that old city has been familiar to the readers of the Record for twenty years and is the guarantee of the quality of administration he will bring to the task of directing the work of the Mission at large. As we bid M. Guex "Godspeed," so we bid M. Chastand "Welcome" and pledge him our prayers and our loyal efforts.

#### ADAPTATION

## DIRECTOR HENRI GUEX

Adaptation is one of the primary laws of life, holding in all its domains. This law conditions the development and progress of every organization which would survive.

If the *Mission Populaire* is more alive today than ever, it is because it has adapted itself from the beginning to the conditions of life among those with whom it has labored. Its success from the days when Dr. McAll first set his Mission in motion is owing to its constant adjustment to the needs of the working classes. In 1872 its posts were little halls of the humblest sort opened to all who passed, in particular to the men of the congested industrial sections of Paris. Then followed the extension into the larger cities of France in order that the light of the Gospel might shine in places where it had never before penetrated. The war led to the inauguration of meeting places for soldiers and camp followers, to the opening of dispensaries and of special schools, all of which marked another moment in adaptation.

The original McAll hall has not entirely disappeared and

experience proves that that old-fashioned *salle* still remains as a most excellent means of evangelization. In proof I would cite as a striking example the daily meetings in Boulevard Sébastopol which are carried on in continuation of similar meetings during forty years in the old Boulevard Bonne Nouvelle hall. It is distressing that we find so much difficulty in discovering more rentable properties which would enable us to multiply these old-fashioned halls which might be described as advance posts in our attacks upon the strongholds of indifference and unbelief.

In carrying out the thought of Christ in his story of the Sower, the distinguishing characteristic of the *Mission Populaire*, this same *Mission Populaire* has been one of the first if not the first to employ so many and varied methods. In order to reach the riverside populations, the Mission employs two chapel boats which in their hundreds of stops among the peasantry during these many years have first of all aroused the curiosity of the toilers of the soil and in the end drawn hundreds of thousands of them to hear the message of the Gospel.

By way as it were of taking soundings in the workingmen's quarters, portable halls have been utilized. To accomplish the same end in inland towns and villages, Gospel cars have been drafted into service, both the ordinary automobile and the covered truck in which a group of witnesses and workers could be carried from one market-place or country-fair to another.

But the process of adaptation has gone on in a more permanent way in the substitution for the little, old-fashioned halls of veritable institutional churches, *Fraternités*, which in many industrial towns constitute today the most beautiful flower in the Mission's crown.

To create an atmosphere favorable first of all to the birth and then to the growth of the workingman's spiritual life, an atmosphere in which he could break away from the materialism of his existence as well as from his slavery to habits as destructive of his physique as of his soul, which, in a word, would set his manhood free, such is the aim and the result of the Mission's efforts. The varying organizations to which this aim gives birth are naturally of every sort and kind

for they must meet every spiritual, intellectual and physical need of all ages and of both sexes. Accordingly, in addition to strictly evangelistic meetings, the Mission today carries on *Ecoles de Garde*, Sunday and Thursday Schools, Vacation Schools, Y. P. S. C. E.'s, Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts, Study Circles, Prayer Meetings, Mothers' Meetings, Blue Cross and Band of Hope Societies, Orchestras and Bands, Vacation Colonies, Athletic Groups, Restaurants, Lunch-Rooms, Cooperative Stores and Dispensaries.

The *Fraternité* is at once the people's Church and the vestibule to the Church itself—perhaps one might even say the prophecy of the Church of the future.

One might easily enlarge upon every one of these "adaptations," upon their usefulness and their results. Enough has been said to indicate that in its adaptation in the foregoing ways to the conditions of present-day life is the prophecy of the Mission's future, of its life itself, and of the extension of its programme which might be phrased in the words, "To bring all human life under divine control."

#### SALLE CENTRALE

#### PASTOR ROBERT LORRIAUX

The last year has been a normal one in all the branches of our work. Nothing extraordinary has transpired, but we have the feeling of running our roots deeper and deeper as the months pass.

The spiritual family of the Pierre Levée Church proper which is composed of our converts and the Protestants of the neighborhood has added to its numbers fifteen new members. The Sunday morning services are well attended, a goodly number of young men and young women always being present and helping with the singing. The contributions for the Church itself as well as for our foreign mission work have increased.

The average attendance at the Sunday evening evangelistic services has also grown, though it is not yet all that we could wish. These evangelistic gatherings are always preceded by a lantern talk or film. The monthly family evenings which are in the nature of informal fêtes have been equally well attended.

We are encouraged by our young people's work as well as by the progress in our Bible Schools and *Ecoles de Garde*. The spirit of co-operation has been more evident than ever. For example, our Christian Endeavor secretary was called to the colors. How should we replace him, for, as a matter of fact, he was also acting president. Two members who had formerly filled the office of president and who had already finished their military service, divided his responsibility between them thanks to which the membership of the society will be maintained intact. The same normal conditions prevail in our girls' societies and children's groups. We are fortunate in having the voluntary help of five ladies who lend a hand in our music and manual training at our Thursday afternoon patronage. Teachers and helpers in our Sunday School have been recruited among former pupils.

The Foyer Feminin which was somewhat of an experiment last year is now truly well under way. Every day except Saturday fifty midinettes make use of our refectory, having the privilege of the kitchen to warm up the luncheons which they have brought with them. These are for the most part young women who live in the suburbs and who except for us would be obliged to eat their midday meal in questionable restaurants and to loaf in the streets while waiting for their factory whistles. Many of these are still quite young and we are more than happy to provide for them such a place of sanctuary.

Our newest installation is a moving picture outfit. Our films are shown gratis, but a collection is always taken to cover their cost. It is impossible to exaggerate the educational value, both socially and religiously, of this new installation. We are not without competition. Both Catholic and municipal schools have recently been opened in our neighborhood, offering much free entertainment to the children. The Jews have their eyes on us and vacation colonies devoid of any religious training are seeking to draw our children away from us. This is reported not by way of complaint, but to indicate how steadfast and persevering we must be. Our work is more necessary than

ever, for the influence of the Gospel alone is strong enough to uproot the moral and political Bolshevism all about us, not to speak of the superstition and error which kills initiative and liberty.



"MIDINETTES" AT LUNCH IN THE PIERRE LEVÉE REFECTORY

# II Mlle Savary

There is a shortage of children in France. It is difficult to secure them in large numbers whether for our *Ecoles de Garde* or for our Sunday and Thursday Schools, both because of the municipal primary schools open to all children and because, as many of them live in the outskirts of Paris, both mothers and children like to spend their afternoons out of doors. However, our Thursday School and the chance for

manual training still draw some children to us, 60 on an average out of 100 enrolled.

My Sunday group of girls from 13 to 17 gives me great joy. The history of Christianity which we are studying at present arouses in them a keen interest. Recently one of them united with the church as three others had already done. The enthusiasm with which they bring me the *résumés* of the lessons they have copied at home is an indication of the reality of their interest. I asked one of them who is supposed to be rather light-headed and not very intelligent, "How would you know that a young girl had received the Holy Spirit?" "By the way she lived," was her unexpected reply.

On Sunday afternoons the Salle Centrale buzzes with young life. The boys and girls of the different groups take their turn playing in the court and fill the air with their cries of joy and their songs. Those from 12 to 15 years present a rather difficult problem, especially when we undertake to train them in co-education which the evil influence of the motion picture houses does not make any easier. We have to struggle with precocious sentimentality and have decided to make two groups in our Vacation Colony, taking to Fondettes girls of more than 12 years in August, and in September the boys of the same age. The little ones, of course, will be able to stay through the entire twelve weeks.

With the help of Mlle Bruce, daughter of the Amiens pastor, we have been able to do much for the physical health of our children, of whom thirty-five were operated on for adenoids and others sent to a preventorium. The Mothers' Meetings are also a great source of joy. When I talk to these women of Christ and of His saving power, I am conscious of their understanding. With some of them I have already commenced a course in the history of Christianity and two of these will presently unite with the Church of Pierre Levée. Others, without taking this step, attend regularly the Sunday morning service. Hearing of the crushing deficit of our missionary society, these dear old souls were greatly moved and in a fortnight 160 francs were collected by them or given at great personal sacrifice. We follow them up even to the hospital or alms house where old age and infirmity force them to seek

an asylum. Mme H——, for example, is at Ivry. I found her there, exceedingly sad, far from her peaceful little room, in a ward with 100 beds and surrounded by strangers—feeling herself verily lost. As she accompanied me to the door, she told me of the happiness my visit had given her and that hereafter she would not feel so utterly alone because of my assurance that the Lord was always with her.



Mothers' Meeting at Pierre Levée

In another institution there are six of my "Mothers." This place is like a small village that accommodates over four thousand women. Mme B——'s outfit consists of a bed, a chair and a small bureau in a large hall which she shares with 70 others. I found her serene and happy notwithstanding that a selfish woman had taken from her a coat which she needed, but her only comment was that this wretched woman did not

know the Saviour, "while I, I am always with Him." Mme V—, another of our dear habitués, after some weeks of suffering died trusting in God. She asked to see Mr. Lorriaux and requested that he conduct her funeral. Her last words to her broken-hearted husband were, "Go as often as you can to Pierre Levée." Faithful to her memory, this good man attends all our Sunday evening services and it is our prayer that the light which guided and sustained his wife may also penetrate into his heart.

Finally, I would speak of an elderly woman, almost helpless and blind, living in a wretched little room where I found her abed with scarcely anything to eat and yet happy. "God has not forsaken me," she said, "I live with Him. Christ is my life. I am only waiting till He comes for me." The happiness of these destitute ones is the demonstration of the power of faith and of the fidelity of our God.

#### AMIENS

### PASTOR DONALD BRUCE

I am happy to give to the friends in America some further news of the work at Amiens which they have so long assisted with their gifts and their prayers.

The Amiens station is conducted under very favorable conditions and is one of the posts of the Mission which realizes the most completely the ideal of the founder himself, namely, a cordial collaboration between the Mission and the Protestant church of the locality.

The Wednesday evening meetings where there are never less than forty persons and usually many more are still carried on in conformity with the "classical" type of what used to be called—and is still known as—the McAll "meeting" (Conférence).

Our building is well situated in the midst of a working-class district and is sufficiently large and well adapted to our needs. It contains, in addition to the flat occupied by Mlle Flandrois, the evangelist, three good-sized halls, which can easily be thrown into one. A large playground is soon to be added to our "plant." A wall on one side will protect the children from

Amiens 13

the canal, one of the many canals which give to Amiens the name of "The Venice of the North." There will also be built a covered shelter where the children may play on rainy days.

Our friends will understand the need for this playground when they read that at our Thursday School we have always about a hundred children.

To the Bible lessons there will presently be added classes in manual work.

Our troops of twenty-five Scouts and fifteen *Louvetau.v* (Wolf Cubs) are particularly happy in looking forward, in the new playground, to a landing stage and a boat shed which the Mission has promised them for the two large canoes they have built and which are quite fit to go on the river.

The Thursday School has a juvenile branch in charge of the pastor's wife where from 45 to 50 tiny tots, of from 2 to 3 years old up to 7 years, are to be found each week. A young American, Mr. Judd, who is studying at the Normal School for Teachers, is a very much appreciated helper with the boys.

The Mothers' Meeting, on Mondays, is larger this year than has ever been the case. During these hard and cruel weeks of unemployment which our local industries (velvet factories and dyeing works) are passing through, these meetings are especially useful to the mothers and wives of the unemployed. The advice, the practical help and sympathy, they find in our hall, give them the courage to carry on.

The Men's Meetings with its alternate evenings for games and for lectures is well attended and has a particularly fraternal character. One of these evenings is shortly to be devoted to America and we hope that Mr. Judd will be able to be present and to speak to the men. We should be only too thankful if any of our American friends could give us lantern slides illustrating life in America, religious and social undertakings and views of the country itself. (Of course, the slides would need to be of the same size as our lantern frames.)

The *Croix Bleue*—Temperance Society—after having languished for some time has taken on a new lease of life. Our little group is now a stronghold for some of our friends who have in the past often yielded to the temptation of strong drink.

Our Christmas fêtes and Watch Night Service were especially well attended this year. The first fête of the New Year was for the "aged" and was prepared entirely by the young women. Fifty persons of both sexes, the eldest of 87 and 88 years, were present. On the programme were a Cantata performed by the children: "The Little Match-Seller," adapted from Hans C. Andersen's moving little tale. There was a lunch and a distribution of gifts followed by a short address by the pastor. Thus the new year has begun most happily and we are praying God's blessing upon it throughout its course. We ask our American friends to receive our warm thanks and our deep gratitude for their generosity and the unfailing kindness they show to our work.

#### FIVES-LILLE

### PASTOR HENRI NICK

Our activities at Fives continue along the usual lines-Bible classes, religious services and the young people's groups. But outside of this work, which I will refer to later, there is another which now goes on without our aid, but which gives us much satisfaction. During the war there was, naturally, a great breaking-up among our clientele. Many of our old friends upon whom we could surely count had to leave in order to find work elsewhere. How happy we are now to have the fine B—— family back again! They were always so interested in the Gospel and among its most generous supporters; to hear that G-- now is an active member in a Baptist church in the capital; that the school teacher who was won for the Gospel at the Fover during the German occupation is the right hand of the pastor at Dunkerque and assists him in his services; that Mme D-- is the president of the Young Women's Union and interested in all the religious movements in the city where she now lives. Thus the change which deprived us of some of our very best members in reality has contributed to the extension of God's Kingdom. But there are also among those who have been attracted to the Gospel some who do not hold to their faith. Only this week I accompanied to the cemetery the

body of a drunkard who after having mended his ways for a while was again seized with his old desire and had taken his own life. Yesterday, on the other hand, I met two men who have kept their pledges for nearly one year. One of them at the prayer meeting in the evening thanked God for the help He had given him and the happiness which had come to his family. Both of them spend their leisure hours talking to their fellow-workers at the factory or, Saturday afternoons, in the market-places or in their homes, in an effort to help some of those still in the chains of vice. One of these came a long distance one night to see the pastor in the hope of being freed from his bondage. Another wrote me many letters and finally, on the advice of his wife, came to see me. He lived twenty kilometers from Lille and connections were poor. As he was unable to come to the regular meetings, he came to see me every week and showed his gratitude in the most touching manner, bringing fresh eggs and beautiful flowers to those who had put him on the right road again. He guards carefully his pledge-card and we feel he is working toward complete redemption. There are many cases of this sort and they prove the desire at the bottom of every human heart for deliverance, a desire which can only find satisfaction in Jesus Christ. Our gratitude goes out to our friends in America who enable us to hold up the crucified Saviour in the different quarters of our city.

But the work of salvation adapts itself to all circumstances. It is our lot to announce the Gospel under the most different aspects imaginable—at public fêtes and markets or to strangers who walk in our funeral processions. One Christian worker opens his kitchen for a neighborhood meeting every Wednesday and we have from time to time rented small halls in different localities.

At the regular meetings at the *Foyer*, music plays an important part and M. Noguier's band is much appreciated. A small orchestra of violins gives us some beautiful evenings and plays occasionally while we show a moving picture. During Holy Week Pastor Heuzé, d'Hénin Liétard, accompanied by a distinguished violinist, sang some passages from Bach's Passion. At other times the choir of boys and girls enter-

tains. We try always to vary the programmes for the Sunday evening meetings. The library is opened and we sell religious papers, especially the *Solidarité Sociale* which is particularly adapted for the factory population of Fives.

We place in homes in the country children or young people who are in need of fresh air. We must at all times be ready to render help to those who apply to us.

We wish to thank God for the faithful help of so many friends, more especially that of M. and Mme Vallée who have been with us for twenty-seven years. What would our work be without them? We have been deprived of the help of Pastor and Mme Nusslé whose warm message we miss and Mlle Merle d'Aubigné has, on account of illness, been obliged to stop her much appreciated activity. Mlle Nicolas, one of our Bible teachers, has also left. To all of these faithful helpers, whether nurses, professors or students, who come and go, our work owes its strength and growth.

The work we have most at heart is that for the young people: Schools, Boy and Girl Scouts, Y. P. S. C. E., Louveteaux and Vacation Colonies. Early in October, 1925, we noticed a material increase in the number of boys at our schools, but in January the attendance somewhat fell off—the movies are keen rivals. Our Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts give us much pleasure. These organizations discipline the children and provide healthy pleasures for them in the open and bring them nearer to Christ who is the inspiration of all that is truthful, pure and good. The leaders really have some beautiful qualities—I do not know of any more accomplished son than André L- who is always most solicitous for his mother. The Girl Scouts are easily distinguished by their fine appearance and Christian temper. Some cultivated young girls from the university circle have joined the troop. The leader at present is a working girl who is very efficient and well liked.

The Louveteaux (Wolflings) are very encouraging. Under a chief whom they all love these young boys are rapidly improving in manners and are working diligently at their collections of stamps, or pictures, or leaves and flowers. One of them said the other day, "We go to the chief's house as often as he will let us." The *cadettes* meet for Biblical study and each one takes his turn at presiding and selecting the subject.

Our Joys! Roger V-, a boy of fifteen. He has a long string of sisters and brothers. In the little house they are all crammed into nobody pays much attention to him and blows are more frequent than good examples. He comes to the Scouts and get some guidance there and corresponds with one of our former nurses, so that any time he feels unhappy at home he can always go to the home of this Christian young woman. He goes out of his way to be of help there and if there is no dusting or cleaning to be done he picks up a book and sits down to read as, I was going to say, in his own home, but, no, as he could not do at home. The nurse said to him the other day, "Mother is sick and I cannot give you any attention," but he answered, "I would so much rather be here than in all the noise at home, even without a chair to sit in!" He would go through fire for this friend and he does not hesitate to say so. To his pals who tease him he says, "You think only of a good time, but I am more serious." He likes to sing the hymns but finds the Bible lessons too long. His parents said to me, "Roger is very much changed."

Here is a woman to whom the loss of a dearly loved child proved too much and who was turned from the straight road. Nothing could console her. She went daily to the cemetery and paid large sums to keep the little grave always decorated with beautiful flowers. She had become reconciled with her husband when one day, by chance, I knocked at their door. She offered me at once a drink of brandy and her husband had to motion to her to stop insisting upon my taking it. Today this woman has found peace in her heart; she reads the Gospel and is generous and always ready to help others. Her life is exemplary and radiant.

Our joys, again, are those young girls, cadettes and scouts, truly efficient, regular at the prayer meetings, of good moral character and always ready to help. Armelle, for instance, who leaves her books and goes to call for the blind man to lead him to the meetings. He has been ill treated by nature, walks very badly and is difficult to guide. The other girls were all willing to call for him once, but would forget all about

it the following Sunday. Armelle now faithfully goes for him every week.

Recently a woman lost her daughter at the age of 31 from tuberculosis. Yvonne H——, indifferent from a religious standpoint had broken away from Catholicism because of the scandalous life of a bad Catholic. She was sent to a secular sanatorium and became friendly with Hélène V—— in the next bed who from her sixteenth year, on account of serious spinal trouble, had been unable to move. Hélène had been several times at death's door. Downcast, as she saw her dreams of young girlhood crushed, she had learned through her suffering the strength of prayer. Her sweetness of soul won over Yvonne. She rendered her testimony with the voice of one about to die, but she gave much consolation to her fellow sufferers. Not until after her death did Yvonne's mother become a Christian.

It has been our lot to see many of the sick depart in peace. The sufferings of one in particular were unspeakable. A Christian working girl nursed her without fear of contagion and finally she died confident in that divine grace in which no amount of suffering could break her faith.

In joy and in sorrow we shall persevere. More than ever the world has need of God. In the confusion of modern life the Gospel is the only power of salvation. May the Lord find in us the humble, faithful, loving and ingenious workers of which he has need.

# LE FOYER POPULAIRE

"La Bienvenue"

PASTOR H. MERLE D'AUBIGNÉ

Our meetings for adults on Saturday and Sunday evenings attracted only small audiences, so this year we have planned to hold these meetings on Sundays, at 2.30 p.m., in the hope of a better attendance. At any rate, they will serve as adult Bible classes.

But we have three very large groups, namely, the Boy Scouts, the Boys Class and the Children.

The Sunday School has increased in the same proportion as the Thursday School, due to the D. V. B. S. and to the progress of our young people's groups.

Thanks to the generosity of Miss I. H. Green, we have been able to complete our pedagogical equipment by a children's library of illustrated books. These books are very useful, especially on rainy days and during the last hour of the Thursday School, as well as at the *Ecole de Garde*. While most of the children prefer comical books, such as *Becassine*, still there are many who appreciate good literature enough to ask for books other than the illustrated magazines sold at the newsstands.

Last Sunday when I got to the Foyer as the children were playing out on the terrace, I found in the classroom a boy of ten, all alone. He was absorbed in his reading and thinking that he was enjoying one of the books from our library, I went over to see just what he had and was astonished to find out that it was the Bible. "Well, my boy, what are you reading?" "The story of Joseph, Monsieur." "And does that interest you?" "Oh yes, indeed." I left him. Two hours later, after the lesson of the day, I found my boy still absorbed in his reading. This time it was the book of Samuel. "Oh, I said to him, you have skipped a lot." "Yes, but I found some things you had not told us about and which I could not understand." He had leaped through Exodus and Leviticus and had kept on until he came to Samuel, the story of which I had told some weeks previously. "Would you like me to give you a Bible that you could read right straight through without having to skip?" "Yes, please, thank you." Thursday of last week the boy was unable to come to Bienvenue. Yesterday I found him again all alone in the hall, reading his Bible and asked him, "Do you find it easier not to have to skip the chapters?" "Yes, Monsieur." "What are you reading now?" "I am reading about Jesus Christ." Two hours later he was still deep in the Gospel of Matthew.

Young People's Groups: Experience has taught us that the best way to interest the young people is to form clubs, or groups, of which they themselves have the sole management. Last year, besides our classes for religious instruction and manual training, we had five such groups, namely, a Girls' Union, Girl Scouts, *Petites-Ailes* (Little Wings), Boy Scouts and a Band of Hope.

The Girl Scouts, Petites-Ailes and Boy Scouts had several outings and, thanks to the hospitality of Mme G. Roy and of Baronne Hottinguer, our young girls have camped often on the beautiful estates of Fav and Boissy-St-Leger and have come home delighted. But as the troop grows it becomes more and more difficult to find suitable camping places and the Mission could render valuable service to Protestant young womanhood by acquiring a suitable property in one of the beautiful forests near Paris. We have started two new divisions this year; the cadettes, for young girls who cannot as yet wear uniforms and a troop of Boy Scouts functioning in connection with one of the troops of the Christian Union of the Faubourg St. Antoine. Having decided to allow only one of the troops supported by the Mission to draw its members outside of its clientele. I was very happy to be able to enlist the big boys of La Bienvenue in the only organization which would keep them under our influence.

Mme Kaspar who directs the *Ecole de Garde* tells the following which will give you an idea of the audacity of our Parisian gamins: "It was nearly five o'clock when I discovered that G—— had not yet come to class. 'Perhaps he is held at school?' I asked his comrades. 'No, madam, he is at the *Place d'Italie* with a street wrestler, who pays him six sous for lying down on the ground and allowing him to pass dumb-bells or heavy weights over his head. I have done it myself, but I am not going to do it again.' Just then G——came in. 'Where do you come from?' 'From school.' 'At this hour? Have you been punished?' 'No.' 'Is it true what your friend tells me?' 'Yes, madam.' 'And the man gave you six sous?' G——, beaming: 'No, that isn't true. He gave me twelve.'"

This year, the fourth of my ministry here, God has accorded me two great joys. Never have I had about me a group of co-workers who could compare with those of today and, secondly, three girls, former catechumens, have manifested the wish to work for God and their companions! Unfortu-

nately, one of these fell ill some time ago and had to be sent to a preventorium. During her absence, her mother, who had a bad heart, died and her daughter expressed the wish to come home and to return to work in order to be near her father and brother. This programme proved entirely too hard for her and we persuaded her that her first duty was to get well and to this end to return to the sanitorium, kept by Catholic sisters. Although she was well cared for, she suffered much on account of her faith. First of all the Mother Superior confiscated her Bible, whereupon I sent her my Crampon Bible, bearing the imprimateur of the Bishop of Tournai. Even so she had great difficulty in keeping possession of this and was forbidden to show it to her comrades with the explanation that the Bible was permitted to be read only by people of advanced years. Mlle Muller went to see her and the Mother Superior praised her much, saving, "She is very different from the others who think of nothing but eating, clothes and marriage. There is something very profound about her. Her daily life is dedicated to the glory of her Saviour."

#### "VILLA BONNE HUMEUR"

MLLE LOUISE RAIMOND (Concluded)

Here is Gaby, a little gentleman of eight or nine, thin and anaemic, who filled himself with such enormous quantities of bread that we had to stop him. He told us that he had never been allowed to satisfy his appetite before, poor little chap! Aristide, the clown of the colony; Leon and Lucien, two brothers of nine and five, Leon so careful always of his little brother and Lucien, called Lulu, the beau of little Jeannine of the same age. This little couple were inseparable and provided many a laugh for visitors to the colony. One day when Lulu had been bad Jeannine said to him, "You know, if you are not good, the next time you are looking for me I will not play with you." "Well, never mind," answered the young gentleman, "it is you that are always running after me!" Another time, I said: "Jeannine, aren't you going to play with Lulu?" No answer. "What is the matter?" "He does not

love me any more," answered the young lady with composure. "Oh, and why?" "I don't know!" But then Lulu appeared on the scene and I asked him, "Are you angry with Jeannine?" "Yes." "Why?" "She cheats." "What, she cheats? How?" "Why, when we play 'home' she hangs on to me so as to get in first," said Lulu scandalized.

The little ones are darlings! A great uproar on the stairs one morning! "Is someone killed?" "No, not at all, or he would not be yelling so!" It was little Robert, of four, who received a 'dressing-down' from his older sister. "Look here, Fernande, better stop; what has he done?" "Oh, I haven't a moment's peace, he is after me all the time and I cannot play with anybody else." Now, I can easily understand that it is most annoving for a young lady of thirteen years, undernourished, pale and fragile, to be always harassed by a little brother of four, so I sent Fernande out to play and took the little man in hand. "Why do you cry?" "I want Fernande." "What for, so that she might slap you again?" "No, I want Fernande to play with me." "Now listen, Robert, you go and play with the other little children and leave Fernande alone with the bigger ones," adding, while we were drying up the tears and washing the dirty face, "Only remember that if I hear you cry again, I am going to put you to bed for the whole day. Do you understand?" "Yes, Ma'am," answered Robert with a serious face and we really did not hear him any more that day.

Among the larger children is sixteen year old Josette, who lost her father some months ago; the sixth baby in the family arrived sometime since. A little sister died later and finally the poor mother went insane. A sister and brother were placed in a Protestant orphanage and the baby and Josette were taken in by an aunt, a concierge. The poor child is the only one now to provide for the family. She works in a factory and, thanks to Mme Roustain, who has succeeded in getting the family "adopted" by an American woman, Josette was permitted to get a two-months' vacation. She has a gentle and refined air, this poor child, so full of life and spirit despite all her trials! She is a true little Christian, also, having learned to love her Saviour in one of the halls of the

Mission, but more especially at Châtillon. Madeleine, loving little thing that she is, just eats up the words of the person who leads the services and who tries to make them see Jesus, the tender friend of small and big alike! Irene, who said to me of a dear teacher who had just died, "If I had had the slightest idea that she were to die so soon, I would never have done anything to make her unhappy." Lucienne, fifteen years, who three years ago came to Châtillon a veritable atheist, but who had to fight against the judgment of her entire family in order to be allowed to come back and live a Christian life. Each one, boy or girl, has his own personality, fine qualities and faults, but all of them, persuaded by the love and affection of Mme Roustain and her helpers, try to overcome bad habits and to understand and know the Saviour and to love Him.

The bathing hour is delightful. The Seine runs right by the property, though it is hardly more than a brook here and it is impossible to drown. The boys carry the tent for the "young ladies" to undress in and once in the water their shouts



"LES PETITS" AT CHÂTILLON

and laughter can be heard far away! A good game of ball on the beach ends the performance and they return to the house quite ready to do justice to the supper prepared by Mme Pauline.

After dinner comes the time for free play which is much appreciated by the children. They are somewhat excited from the afternoon's excursion, some of them perhaps even tired. We leave them alone to play or run or sing for half an hour. Then, when those who are on kitchen duty have finished, all gather in the living room—all except the little ones who have already gone to bed-for a few songs, old and new. They sing beautifully at Villa Bonne Humeur and this hour passes very quickly. Once in a while we would have some songs with motions by two or three girls from Grenelle. Then the evening service and despite fatigue the big eves are alert and the answers to our questions are given with understanding and without hesitation. Then another hymn and \* \* \* before I can get out of my chair, a hundred little arms are about me and a shower of kisses follows. It is no small task to kiss fifty little children good night!

From our hearts we thank our dear American friends who provide the material aid necessary to keep this work going. May it continue even when there are no more "war orphans"!

### NEWS FROM MARSEILLES

G. Sabliet

The children from 10 to 13 have given us much encouragement by the seriousness with which they listen to the daily lesson and I have been astonished more than once at their answers and at their understanding of the profound truths of the Bible. I am thinking especially of a girl of 10, who, at the end of the lesson on John the Baptist, answered the question, "Why did John baptize?" "To take away sins." Another day I made a short talk on the subject of appearance and cleanliness. I told them that they ought to give the lie to the common idea of so many, namely, that the children of the working people were dirty. "With a little water, some soap and

a good brush you could all look very nice and not have people say that about you any more." Since then several have made very serious attempts at being clean.

Recently, I have been much occupied with a family truly in need of our interest. Four children from our Ecole du Port were absent last Thursday on account of the death of their father who had died suddenly at his work. I went to call on the family which comes from Spain and has lived in France only two years. They are Catholics. What misery! The oldest child is a boy of 12 and the others, little girls of 9, 7, 5, 3 and 15 months. The eldest of the girls had typhoid fever in October and just now the four younger ones have whooping cough. The mother without any means whatever and with all these little ones on her hands! Not to mention a poor, old father of 75 who makes a few sous as a shoemaker! I landed in the midst of this sorrow and misery. And in what surroundings! They live in one of the narrow streets on the steep slope back of the city hall, in an old house of one room, with two beds for the mother and her five children and a cradle for the baby, a table, a dresser and a trunk. No chimney, but a little fire-pot where, on some charcoal, or a few pieces of coke, their food was cooked. No water—no gas! And with all this, moisture running down the walls. The father was working in a factory, but they lived from day to day. What would become of them now? Poor mother and children! The unhappiness of this mother is both physical and moral. The neighbors and a few members of the family collected a little sum and have in this way taken care of the more immediate needs-but tomorrow?

Some neighbors were in the house when I entered. The children ran quickly toward me. The mother does not understand French and in my half-forgotten Spanish I managed to get out a few words of Christian sympathy. Their misery overwhelmed me and, without knowing just how, I promised that we would do all that we possibly could for them. With the neighbors we were some fifteen or sixteen people in the house and I took my Spanish New Testament and, feeling sure that God would help me, I read to this little gathering the 11th chapter of John (it was perhaps for the first time that they heard the Gospel in their own language!) and some verses

from the 14th chapter. I added a few simple words in order to show these friends, some of whom had been moved to tears. that tomorrow did not count, but that we must turn our eyes toward God today. Every head nodded approval, even that of the widow, when I said: "We do not know what tomorrow has in store for us." In my heart I prayed God that tomorrow might alleviate the suffering of this poor mother. What is she going to do? Work? With her three babies? Put her two oldest into a Catholic Orphan Home? I should not encourage her to do that. Into a Protestant home? But she is not a Protestant and there is a certain red tape, though I believe that in the eyes of Jesus human unhappiness and misery are without rules. Only one way remained, namely, that the older children took their noon meal at the canteen in the school and that the boy went to work. But what could he earn, he who progressed so well in his school work? I looked at these dear, little, unfortunate children and could not help thinking of my own who have their plain but nourishing food every day and my heart was heavy when I came to leave.

I walked quickly to the home of a Christian friend with a kind heart and told him what I had just seen. And God did not knock in vain at this door! My friend answered "present" to His call and God is going to make use of him. The following afternoon I took the boy to him as he had decided to give him a place in his office—not that he could be of great help there, but simply in order that anything he might wish to give to the family would not be called charity. The little fellow looked well, very neat in his poor clothes and took much pride in showing his school card inscribed by himself in a handwriting quite remarkable for his age and with some favorable comments from his teacher. My dear Christian friend was very much touched and asked him, "Would you like to keep on going to school?" "Yes, but I cannot because I must earn some money to help my mother." Our friend hesitated a few minutes and then talked to me on the side. "But if you could make some money by going to school, what would you say, would you like that?" His eyes danced but as he murmured, "Yes," he was doubtless asking himself how that could possibly be done. "Well, you shall go to school and I will pay you as if you worked here. You will finish your year and in July we shall see just what you are best suited for."

How it all worked out to the glory of God! I said simply to this dear boy, so deeply moved and whose expression betrayed all the gratitude which his lips did not know how to express: "You see how good Jesus is. This gentleman loves you because he loves Jesus Christ. Now don't fear because Jesus will not leave you." Through the same channel some clothing and food was also provided and the poor mother who had not dreamed of such a thing burst into tears as one package after another arrived. That was her way of saying, "Thank you." Reports received from his teacher this morning show that the boy is absolutely worthy of the help which we are giving him.

#### RECENT GOSPEL VICTORIES AT DESVRES

#### H. BROCHET

Two brothers of 20 and 22 with a disreputable past, drunkards and the sons of a drunkard, said to me sometime ago: "We have never been so happy. Before, we simply worked to pay off our fines for misconduct and the police were our constant visitors." Whenever there was a bloody fight in the street, or some brawl at night, people would say, "Oh, that is only the two D—— brothers." Now they have turned their backs on the cafés and their parents are very happy over it. The mother attends our meetings and their younger brother is enrolled in our Sunday School.

A former drunkard of 24—the father of four children! The family lived in terrible misery in every way due to his drinking. There has been marked improvement since he gave up alcohol and at Christmas, for the first time in the four years we have known him, he appeared in a new suit of clothes! His children do not any more have to fear the brutal beatings which he used to give them when he came home "in his cups."

A boy of 15. Two or three years ago, I saw this chap between two policemen on the way to the station. He had broken into a house through the window and had stolen a small sum of money. He was known in the neighborhood as a bad boy and frequented the dance halls and other places of evil influence. Now he is one of the most faithful members of the Blue Cross. His sisters also have signed the pledge.

An old friend, for whom the year 1926 became decisive when he gave himself completely to the service of Christ. We sent him as representative to the convention of the Christian Endeavor Society, at St. Quentin, where all present again pledged themselves to the Master's service. He is very devoted to his work and takes every opportunity to render his testimony.



ANTI-ALCOHOLIC EXHIBIT AT ST. NAZAIRE

Other auxiliaries may want to follow the example of Troy where a member, Mrs. Leonard H. Giles, has given \$100 to make the President, Mrs. F. King Singiser, an Honorary Member of the American McAll Association.

#### HOME DEPARTMENT

Newark

A novel method of raising money for orphan support was adopted recently by the "Fram" of Maplewood. The thirty children who constitute the membership held a doll show and realized the sum of \$45. The Ladies' Aid Society, of the Maplewood Church, are making complete outfits for Denise and Geneviève to see them through the coming year. Mrs. Anthony writes: "The doll show was really wonderful for we not only had dolls of every modern variety, but those of different periods as far back as 100 years ago and including types from countries as far away as Lapland and India. Cakes, candy, lemonade and pot holders helped to bring up the receipts. The 'Fram' is growing more popular every day."

Boston The Annual Meeting of the Auxiliary was held on Wednesday, March 9th, at the Twentieth Century Club. One hundred ladies sat down to a delightful luncheon, following which extracts from French letters were read by Mrs. Craig, the President. The usual encouraging Treasurer's report was given by Mrs. Messerole. The room was then darkened and 100 slides were shown by the Field Secretary.

A propos the stopping of free carriage of relief boxes, Mrs. Craig announced that several members of the Auxiliary who were planning to visit France during the coming summer had agreed to carry parcels for the Vestiaire.

Norwich The Auxiliary held its Annual Meeting on Tuesday, March 8th, in Park Congregational Church. The President, Miss Bliss, and the Secretary, Miss Trumbull, exchanged offices for the year to come, Mrs. Howe, the devoted and tireless Treasurer of many years, being re-elected by acclamation. Mr. Berry was present and showed his latest slides.

Easton At the Annual Meeting, it was reported that the Laura Maxwell Memorial Fund of \$500 had been completed. This sum will be invested by the National Association and the interest each year forwarded to Paris in

the name of Miss Maxwell who was for so long the president and inspiring spirit of the Easton Auxiliary. The Annual Meeting address was made by Mrs. Kelley, after which the following verse, set to the tune of the Marseillaise, was sung. The verse is quoted in the thought that other auxiliaries might like to make use of it:

Ye sons of God, awake to glory! Hark! Hark! What myriads bid you rise— French children, wives and grandsires hoary! Behold their tears and hear their cries! Behold their tears and hear their cries!

So long the world has wept, bewailing The blood-stained sword the conquirors wield, Arise! Gird on Christ's sword and shield! All other arts are unavailing.

To arms! To arms! Ye brave.
The Word of God increase!
March on! March on!
All hearts resolved to spread the word of peace.

Over a hundred women lunched in the new Hendrick Hudson Hotel on March 28th when the Troy Auxiliary held its Annual Meeting. Flowers, music, enthusiastic reports, an impressive "tribute," by Mrs. J. Erwin Anthony, to the devoted members who during the past year laid down their tasks when the summons came and an inspiring address by the national President made the day a memorable one.

Miss De Cou, the President of the Auxiliary, announces with deep regret the death of the Treasurer, Miss Ellen G. Johnson, who from the early days of the organization has rendered devoted and faithful service. In the name of the Association, the Record extends to the officers and members of the Trenton Society its sympathy and its confidence that Miss Johnson's place will be speedily filled by someone equally interested in the Auxiliary's welfare.

Philadelphia The local Auxiliary, as well as the American McAll Association, has lost a prominent member and officer in the death of Mrs. E. C. Cronk, State Vice-President for Eastern Pennsylvania. Mrs. Cronk was editor of several religious publications, a writer and secretary of the Interchurch World Movement. The sympathy of the

Association is expressed to Dr. Cronk and the members of the immediate family.

For the second time, Mrs. John F. Keator opened her charming, new home in Germantown for McAll, when, on March 23d, a host of women gathered in response to the invitations to a "Family Party." Mrs. Kelley spoke encouragingly of the Mission's outlook along the lines especially favored by Mrs. Wayland, as the afternoon had been planned as a memorial to her, a memorial which took substantial form in a contribution of \$2000 from Mrs. Wayland's friends in the Auxiliary in perpetuation of her annual gift to the Mission.



THE HALT, THE MAIMED AND THE BLIND AT A SATURDAY AFTERNOON "AT HOME" AT BICETRE

# THE AMERICAN McALL RECORD

PUBLISHED BY THE

#### AMERICAN McALL ASSOCIATION

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### February 8-April 8, 1927-\$50,117.87

MASSACHUSETTS, \$4,183.52	PENNSYLVANIA—Continued
Boston Auxiliary         \$2,529         52           Northampton Auxiliary         80         00           Pittsfield Auxiliary         813         00           Springfield Auxiliary         561         00           Worcester Auxiliary         200         00	Philadeiphia Auxiliary \$5,629 00 Philadelphia Junior Auxiliary 425 00 Rainbow Club of Wayne 72 00 Pittsburgh Auxiliary 1,931 62 Sewickley Auxiliary 1,771 00 West Chester Auxiliary 145 25 Wilkes-Barre Auxiliary 407 50
CONNECTICUT, \$4,166.29	Wilkes Barre Auxiliary 407 50
Greenwich, Bluebird Girl Reserves	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, \$1,183.00 Washington Auxiliary \$1,183.00
Meriden Auxiliary         276 00           New Britain Auxiliary         36 00           New Haven Auxiliary         1,388 50	OHIO, \$398.00 Cincinnati
Norwich Auxiliary 339 79	MARYLAND, \$1,420.78
NEW YORK, \$15,833.45	Baltimore Auxiliary \$1,245 78 Baltimore Junior Auxiliary 175 00
Albany Auxiliary	RHODE ISLAND, \$120.00
Brooklyn Junior Auxiliary 85 00 Buffalo Auxiliary 2,448 76	Providence Auxiliary \$120 00
Buffalo Junior Auxiliary 1,072 00 Student McAll Auxiliary 15 00	ILLINOIS, \$650.00
Catskill	Chicago
Catskill         50 00           Ithaca Circle         100 00	Lake Polest
New York Auxiliary 7,214 76 New York Junior Auxiliary 67 50	MICHIGAN, \$621.50
New York Children's Auxiliary 85 00	Detroit Auxiliary \$576 50 Grand Rapids
Rochester Auxiliary         632 00           Syracuse         231 00	FLORIDA, \$36.00
Troy Auxiliary 936 00	Mt. Dora \$36 00
NEW JERSEY, \$8,719.21	DELAWARE, \$156.00
Belvidere Auxiliary \$83 00	Wilmington Auxiliary \$156 00
Elizabeth Auxiliary 1.431 62	MINNESOTA, \$1,119.00
Children's Auxiliary of Maple-	Minneapolis Auxiliary \$596 50
wood	St. Paul Auxiliary 522 50
Morristown 100 00	WISCONSIN, \$100.00
Newark Auxiliary	Milwaukee Auxiliary \$100 00
Auxiliary of the Oranges 1,408 75 Plainfield Auxiliary 1,487 75	MISSOURI, \$50.00
Princeton Circle 372 00	St. Louis \$50 00
Trenton Auxiliary 80 00	Adelaide M. Smuller, Circle
PENNSYLVANIA, \$11,110.37	of Memory \$25 00
Ardmore \$36 00	Per National Children's Auxil-
Chester Auxiliary 241 00	iary 42 00
French History Club 50 00	Per Charles Scribner Sons, Royalty on "Deer Godchild" 1 65
Moylan 4 00	Per Sale of Christmas Cards. 132 10

# FORM OF BEQUEST FOR REAL ESTATE

I do give and devise to the American McAll Association the following described property.

## FORM OF BEQUEST FOR PERSONAL ESTATE

I do give, devise and bequeath to the American McAll Association the sum of dollars.

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